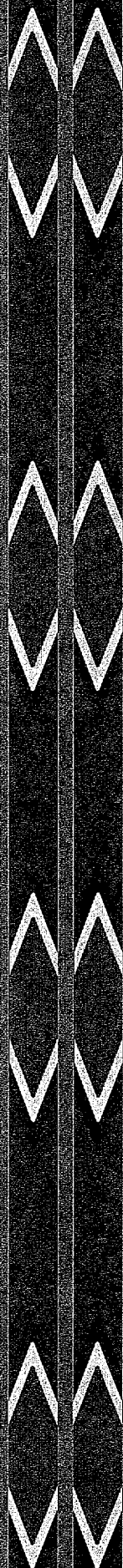


INTRODUCTION



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Historically, the growth and economic development of the United States has been directly related to the expansion and technological advancement of the transportation industry. This has included the railroads, the automobile, and most recently, aviation. Airports, as a segment of the aviation infrastructure, offer a unique, diverse, and growing role in transportation.

The Cochise County Airport has played an increasing role in the promotion and development of the City of Willcox and the Cochise County area. In response to the need for numerous capital improvements at the airport, an Airport Master Plan has been initiated by Cochise County.

AIRPORT MASTER PLAN PROGRAM

The primary objective of the Airport Master Plan program is to prepare a phased development plan which will result in the construction and maintenance of a safe, efficient, economical, and environmentally acceptable public facility. The Master Plan will evaluate both existing and future aviation needs to determine the current and long-range requirements for airport development and to identify and assess site development alternatives.

In the process, the airport planning study serves as a medium for assembling community opinion, spirit, and concurrence. When approved by the various local, regional, state, and federal agencies, the Airport Master Plan represents the long-term intentions of all agencies regarding the location of development and extent of airport improvements. This permits more effective programming and budgeting, reduces lengthy review periods for each project, and provides for orderly and timely development.

The Master Plan program has been designed to provide an objective look at future airport needs and to answer some basic questions about the airport. Primarily, these include:

- ◆ What is the airport's role, service area, and economic benefit?
- ◆ What is general aviation, and who are the predominant airport users?
- ◆ What are the existing and future airport facility requirements?

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- ◆ What are the short, medium and long-term development priorities?
- ◆ How will continued airport development affect the surrounding environment, city access, and area land use?
- ◆ What effect does the airport have on tourism, industrial and economic development?
- ◆ What are the long-term federal, state, local, and private costs associated with future airport development?
- ◆ What financing options are available for continued improvement of airport facilities?
- ◆ How can airport operating expenses be curtailed, and operating revenues be enhanced?
- ◆ Is the current operational/management structure adequate? Should changes be made?

AIRPORT MASTER PLAN PHASES

The completed plan will answer these basic questions and provide a step-by-step phased development program. The table below provides a general outline of major elements to be included in the Master Plan program. The Airport Master Plan is being conducted in six phases to allow for input from the community and potential airport users, and to allow for coordination with the various government agencies, planning councils, local government constituents, and federal and state review agencies.

Description of Planning Program Cochise County Airport	
Study Phase I - Site Review and Data Collection <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Kick-Off Meeting with Planning Advisory Committee● Site Visit and Physical Inventory● Review Existing Data● Pilot Interviews	Study Phase II - Demand Forecasts <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Aircraft and Activity
Study Phase III - Facility Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Identification of Required Facilities by Phase● Demand/Capacity Analysis● Evaluation of Development Alternatives● PAC Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">● FAA and State Review	Study Phase IV - Airport Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Airport Layout Plan● Airspace Drawing● Runway Protection Zone (RPZ) Drawing● Terminal Area Drawing● Airport Land Use Plan● Airport Property Map
Study Phase V - Financing <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Schedule of Priorities● Cost Estimates● Board of Supervisors Meeting and PAC Meeting	Study Phase VI - Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Public Meetings in Willcox and PAC Meeting

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Airport Master Plan

The development of the Airport Master Plan Update is evidence that Cochise County and Willcox recognize the importance of aviation in the overall concept of community and transportation planning. With a sound, objective, and realistic Master Plan, the airport can fulfill its role as an economic asset to the county and city and be a source of pride and satisfaction to the residents of the area.

For the Master Plan to be successful, the following items must be achieved during the planning process:

- 1.) The County must be assured that all potential alternatives have been identified which are compatible with residential, corporate, and industrial development;
- 2.) Adequate data and analysis must be provided to bring about a consensus on the most desirable development options;
- 3.) The airport site and design improvements must be economically and financially feasible to develop, provide an adequate level of public services to the area, and meet Federal Aviation Administration design criteria for development grant eligibility; and
- 4.) Development is to be realized at lowest cost to the user and non-user, without harmful effects on the environment, and in concert with local, state, and federal programming plans. Overall, the objective of the Airport Master Plan is to provide for an airport facility that is:
 - ◆ Safe
 - ◆ Economically viable
 - ◆ In fulfillment of broad local, regional, state and national goals
 - ◆ Acceptable to the user, non-user and general public
 - ◆ Substantially user-supported

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Airport Master Plan

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